

ALL IN COLOUR - MAKES LEARNING A JOY

Once Upon a Time

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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The old horse
blinked his eyes
lazily.

The Sleepy Horse

DAN bought a horse that was always falling asleep and his brother Jan was very angry. You see, they were farmers and a sleepy horse was something Jan did not want.

Jan was a bully but just for once Dan refused to obey his brother when he ordered him to get rid of Dozy, as Dan called his horse.

"You'll be sorry," grumbled Jan. "That bag of bones does nothing but eat and sleep all day long. Why should we keep a horse that won't work?"

"Because I like him," smiled Dan. "Good old Dozy."

"Bah!" scoffed Jan. "He's just no use."

But Jan was wrong, as you will now learn.

One day, Dan managed to harness Dozy to the plough. But the tired old horse ploughed only three furrows and then fell down and blinked his eyes lazily.

Jan was going past with four fine horses at the time.

"Get rid of him!" he shouted to Dan. "He's as useless as you are."

"No," shouted Dan. "I won't. If he wants to sleep, let him." His brother's remarks had hurt him badly.

"You shall have a pillow, Dozy," said Dan, and he picked up a large stone nearby to put under Dozy's head. Then lo! Beneath the stone were fifty gold pieces that had lain hidden there for over three hundred years.

"We're rich!" shouted Dan with delight.

Jan was very jealous, but Dan didn't care.

"I'm going to leave here and buy myself a fine big house," said he. "And I'll buy a stable where Dozy can sleep all day long."

That is just what he did and he and Dozy lived happily ever after.

Read and Remember

Each week "Once Upon a Time" has lots of information about various subjects. Here, for instance, are some interesting facts that are well worth reading and remembering.



1. It's worth remembering next time you have a boiled egg and ask for salt, that salt is a mineral that is mined underground and dug out in big lumps. Salt can also be obtained from sea-water, for all the world's oceans are full of salt.



2. It's worth remembering that the Equator is an imaginary line around the centre of the world (as shown in the small picture). Those countries close to the Equator are the hottest in the world. In these countries, too, are thick jungles. There is also a very heavy rainfall in the region near the Equator.



3. It's worth remembering that Julius Caesar was a famous soldier and leader of Ancient Rome. He lived 2,000 years ago and in 55 B.C. he invaded Britain. He conquered a large part of Europe and also won many battles in North Africa. Caesar became ruler of Rome but some of his friends plotted against him and killed him.

The Sounds Certain Animals Make

We say that people "talk". Here is what we call the sounds that some animals make.



The dog barks



The duck quacks



The pigeon coos



The donkey brays



The cockerel crows



The sheep bleats



The crow caws



The cat mews



The hen clucks



The owl hoots



The cow moos



The sparrow twitters

Beauty and the *Beast*



1. Once upon a time there was a rich merchant who had six sons and six daughters. His favourite was his youngest daughter, who was called Beauty because of her loveliness and gentle ways. She loved her father, and as he grew older she was always by his side.

2. But her brothers and sisters were selfish and thought only of their own enjoyment. Then one terrible night, their splendid home caught fire and they were able to save only a few belongings before the house was destroyed. Beauty tried to comfort her father.



3. "We can stay at an inn until a new house is built," said Beauty. "Cheer up, father," Her father smiled. "You are right, Beauty," said he. "There is no cause for great sadness. I have plenty of money for the future." But even as he spoke, every ship he had on the sea was fighting through a wild storm.



4. The merchant took his family to a nearby inn and there they soon recovered from the loss of their old home and started to think about a new house. Then one morning a messenger arrived with truly dreadful news. Every ship owned by the merchant and his partners had been sunk with all their crews and cargoes.



5. "Alas," sighed Beauty's father, "I have lost everything. We are ruined. What shall we do?" His six sons and five elder daughters all shouted at their father for risking all his money in ships and trading. Only Beauty stood up in defence of their father.

6. "You should thank father for all the happy times we have had together in the past," she said. All that was left of the merchant's fortune was a small farm and he took his family to live there. "It is not much," he said, "but at least we are still all together."



7. "Still all together!" scoffed the sisters. "That won't put food and drink into our mouths, will it?" "No," said Beauty, "but we can plant and harvest the crops and grow food, not only enough to feed us but also to sell and make money." But her sisters sneered at her.

8. The six brothers, however, all agreed with Beauty and together with their father started work in the fields. It was Beauty who looked after the house. She cooked and washed for the men but her sisters gave her only a little help.



9. Beauty would sing and laugh while she scrubbed the floors of the old farm house. Her sisters would sit around, complaining and helping her only when they thought their father was watching.



10. You can understand how excited Beauty and her father were when one day came the news that one of the ships had weathered the storm and was home, crammed full of riches.

Next week the merchant visits a very mysterious castle.



1. These little fellows are called Hanumans. In India they are treated as holy animals and are allowed to do just as they like.



2. This rather sad-looking monkey is an Orang-Utan and it lives in Borneo and Sumatra. Its name means "Man-of-the-Woods".

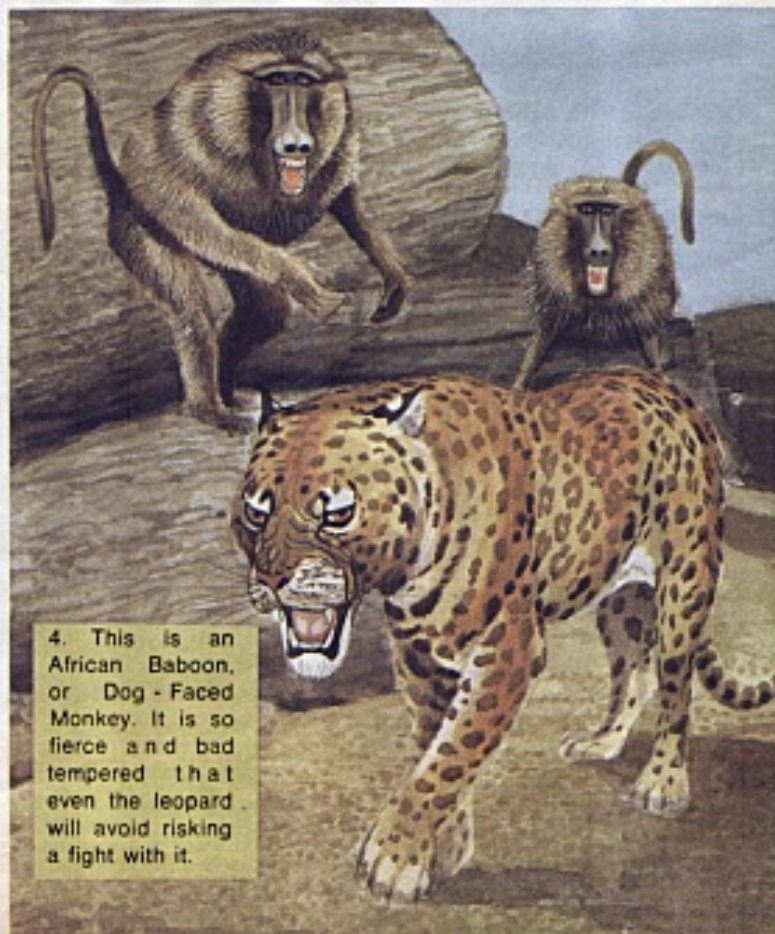


These are our "Allsorts" pages.
Every week you can see all
sorts of Allsorts. THIS WEEK :

All Sorts



3. This is a Gibbon, which is found in several parts of South Eastern Asia. It has very long arms, and swings from branch to branch.



4. This is an African Baboon, or Dog-Faced Monkey. It is so fierce and bad tempered that even the leopard will avoid risking a fight with it.



5. This monkey is called a Mandrill. It lives in the wilds of West Africa and as you can see it has a very large many-coloured head.

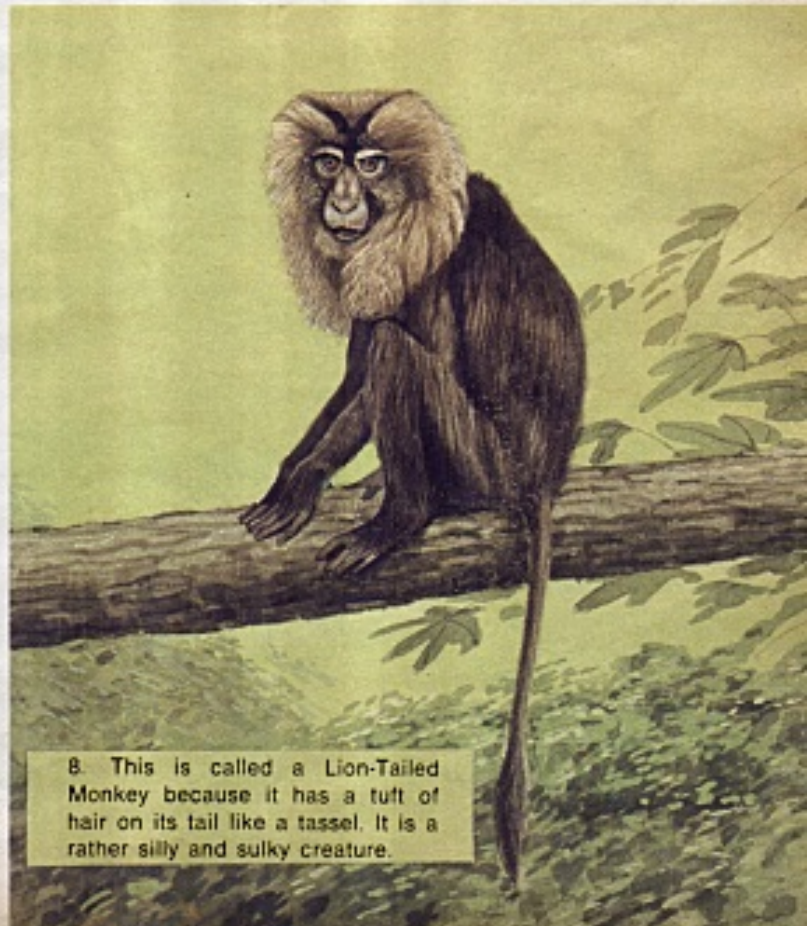


6. There is no more savage looking animal in the world than the Gorilla. When he is angry he thumps his broad chest. He is found in the West African forests.

of Monkeys



7. These Chimpanzees also come from Africa. They will live happily in zoos and soon become great friends with their keepers.



8. This is called a Lion-Tailed Monkey because it has a tuft of hair on its tail like a tassel. It is a rather silly and sulky creature.

BRER RABBIT

How Brer Rabbit Got the Meat

by Barbara Hayes

HALLO children! Have you turned to this page again, wanting to hear some more about that scamp Brer Rabbit?

Then read on, if you are reading, or listen, if you are listening, because I am ready to tell you about another of Brer Rabbit's saucy tricks.

If you read the Brer Rabbit story last week you will remember that I told you how Brer Rabbit tricked Mr. Man out of a big piece of meat. But in order to play the trick, Brer Rabbit had to ask Brer Fox to help.

The story ended when it seemed as though Brer Rabbit and Brer Fox would share the stolen meat between them.

But if you thought that Brer Rabbit had the tiniest notion of sharing that meat with Brer Fox, then you certainly don't know much about our naughty little chum.

This week I will tell you how Brer Rabbit tricked Brer Fox out of his share of the meat and Brer Rabbit kept all the meat for himself.

Well, when they were well out of the way of Mr. Man, the two animals took the meat and put it down on a clean piece of ground.

Then Brer Fox said, "I think it's just about time we started to eat this meat."

And Brer Rabbit said: "I agree."

With that Brer Fox took a big bite of meat. He sat back with his eyes closed and he chewed and he chewed and he tasted and he tasted; and then he chewed and tasted some more.

And all the while Brer Rabbit was watching Brer Fox, with his clever little mind working at double speed, thinking up one of his saucy tricks.

But Brer Fox, all unsuspecting, just went on sitting there with his eyes closed, chewing

and tasting and tasting and chewing.

Then Brer Fox smacked his lips and gave the meat a really close look and said:

"Brer Rabbit, that's *lamb*!"

"No, Brer Fox!" replied

Brer Rabbit. "Surely it's not."

"Brer Rabbit! That's *lamb*!"

"Brer Fox! To be sure—it's *not*!"

Then Brer Rabbit, he decided to take a big bite of meat. And he shut both eyes and he chewed and tasted and tasted and chewed.

Then he smacked his lips and he said:

"Brer Fox! It's pork!"

"Brer Rabbit!" replied Brer Fox, "you're fooling me!"

"Brer Fox! It's pork, believe me."

"Brer Rabbit! It can't be!"

"Brer Fox! It surely is!"

They tasted and they argued and they argued and they tasted.

Then, after a while, Brer Rabbit made as if he wanted some water and he rushed off into the bushes. He came back almost at once, wiping his mouth and swallowing, just as if he had had a lovely drink of fresh water.

When Brer Fox saw that, of course he fancied some water too.

"Brer Rabbit, have you found a spring of water out there?"

"I surely have, Brer Fox," replied Brer Rabbit. "Just nip across the road and down the hill and up the big gully and you will find it."

With that, Brer Fox loped off, he did, but although he crossed the road and rushed down the hill, he didn't find any big gully. So he went on and on, until he *did* find a big gully. But he *still* didn't find any spring of water. No, children, he certainly didn't!

Now, while all this was going on, that scamp Brer Rabbit set to and scabbled



a hole in the ground, and in that hole he hid the meat.

And when the meat was well and truly hidden, Brer Fox set too and cut himself a fine big hickory stick from amongst the bushes.

Then Brer Rabbit sat down and took things easy, until he heard Brer Fox coming back.

The moment he heard the patter of Brer Fox's paws, Brer Rabbit hid himself in the midst of some bushes, took up his hickory stick and started hitting a small tree. And every time he hit the tree, Brer Rabbit squalled out loud, just as if someone were hitting *him!*"

POW! POW! went Brer Rabbit with the stick. Then he shouted:

"Oh please, Mr. Man!"

POW! POW!

"Oh please, Mr. Man!"

CHIPPY-ROW, POW!

"Please don't, Mr. Man! It was Brer Fox who took your meat, not me, Mr. Man!"

POW!

"Oh please, Mr. Man! It was Brer Fox who took your meat. Brer Fox, I tell you, not me!"

Of course, when Brer Fox heard all these goings on, he stopped and he listened and every time he heard the hickory stick come down—POW!—he grinned, he did, the naughty fellow. And he said to himself, "That will pay you out for fooling me about the water, Brer Rabbit."

Because, as I'm sure you have guessed, there was no spring of water anywhere near. Brer Rabbit had just made up the story about the water to get Brer Fox out of the way, while he buried the meat and cut the hickory stick.

Anyway, Brer Fox went on listening to the sound of the hickory stick and, of course, he thought that Mr. Man was giving Brer Rabbit a sound beating. And Brer Fox, he went on laughing, he did, without trying to do a thing to help Brer Rabbit.

At last the sound of the beating seemed to die away and Brer Fox heard a noise as if Mr. Man were dragging Brer Rabbit away towards the road.

Then, in a few minutes, Brer Rabbit came racing towards Brer Fox shouting:

"Run, Brer Fox, run! Mr. Man has the meat and he says he is just going to take it to where his son can look after it for him and then he's coming back after you, Brer Fox. Run, Brer Fox! Run!"

And I can tell you that when he heard *that* Brer Fox made himself mighty scarce, mighty scarce indeed. He didn't stop running till he was safe in his own home.

And as soon as Brer Fox was well out of the way, that cunning Brer Rabbit dug up the meat, took it to his home and enjoyed eating it all night long.

And, to tell the truth, I think he enjoyed it even more because he had tricked two people to get it.

There will be another story about Brer Rabbit next week.





The Horse Fair

This story is a memory test. After you have read it turn to page 16 and see if you can answer the questions.

ONCE upon a time there was a poor man named Hans who loved horses but he never had enough money to buy one. In fact he was very poor indeed. One day he looked round his cottage

to see what he could sell so that he would have some money to buy a little bread. All that he had was an old picture.

He took the picture to a second-hand shop and there he sold it for two silver pieces. Then he set out for the baker's shop to buy some bread.

On his way he met an old man who had a large clock under his arm :

"Would you like to buy a clock for two silver pieces?" asked the old man.

Hans felt sorry for the man so he handed over his two silver pieces and took the clock. The old man went off happy.

"But I cannot buy any bread now!" Hans said to himself. "I have no money."

So he returned to the second-hand shop. "How much for this clock?" he asked.

"Ten silver pieces," was the reply.

Hans was very pleased. He took the ten silver pieces and went off to buy some bread.

On his way he met an old woman who had a gold vase under arm.

"Would you like to buy a gold vase for ten silver pieces," she asked Hans.

Kind Hans felt sorry for the woman and



he liked the vase so he gave her the ten silver pieces and she went off smiling.

"But I still have no bread to eat!" sighed Hans, "and no money."

So he went back to the second-hand shop.

"How much for this vase?" he asked.

The shop-keeper examined the vase.

"It is very valuable," he said. "A thousand gold pieces."

Hans could hardly believe his ears.

"But I must buy some bread to eat," thought Hans, so off he went with his money to the baker's shop.

On his way he saw lots of horses being driven along a street towards a horse fair. Now, as you know, Hans loved horses and when he saw the horses being driven along he felt sorry for them.

"Those horses deserve a good master," he thought.

"How much for all your horses?" Hans asked the owner of the horses.

"Six hundred gold pieces," he replied. So Hans bought all the horses.

"I still have four hundred pieces over," he thought. "I will buy a farm and then I need two people who will help me take

care of the horses."

So after he had bought himself some bread to eat, Hans went in search of the old man who had sold the clock and the old woman who had sold the vase.

When at last he found them he asked them if they would like to make their home with him.

"We have no homes of our own," said the poor old man and woman. "We will be happy to come and live with you."

Hans made lots of money out of his horses and he and the old man and the old woman lived happily ever after.

(Reproduced from the print published by Pallas Gallery Ltd., London, W.1.)

The Brave Little Tailor



1. Once upon a time in a far-off sunny land there lived a huge and terrible giant. He was always robbing and burning houses and the King promised his daughter in marriage to whoever could get rid of the giant. His promise was read to the people.



2. One after another, the country's bravest warriors rode out to battle with the wicked giant. But all were overthrown, defeated and put to flight. The King was in despair and so were his people. The beautiful Princess decided to speak to them.



3. She went out on to the balcony of the Palace and looked down at the frightened faces of the people. Amongst them was a humble little tailor who, as soon as he saw the Princess, fell in love with her. "Who can capture the giant?" asked the Princess.



4. "I can!" shouted the little tailor. Everybody turned to see who had spoken. When the people saw the little tailor they all roared with laughter. Then mockingly, they raised him on their shoulders. "And what will you fight with — your needle?" they laughed.

5. The crowd of people jeered at the little tailor but the Princess smiled at him. "He seems to be very sure of himself," she thought. Later that day the tailor, carrying a long rope, went to the giant's castle.



He stole forward and tied the rope across the huge doorway of the castle.

6. Then, he started shouting. "Hey, giant — can you hear me? Goat-face! Coward! Come out and fight." When the giant heard the tailor he ran out of the castle, tripped over the rope and fell headlong.



7. This was what the tailor had planned. The giant was stunned by his heavy fall and before he opened his eyes and woke up, the tailor had tied his hands and feet with the strong rope.

8. "The King's soldiers can come now and carry you into one of your own dungeons," laughed the tailor. Then he took the giant's sword as proof of his victory and returned to town.



9. As soon as the King heard that the giant had been captured, he sent his soldiers to imprison the giant in his own castle forever. "We'll feed him well and look after him but he must stay locked up," ordered the King. "He's a danger to everybody."

10. Then he turned to the little tailor. "My daughter is yours," he said. The tailor smiled. "Only if she wants me, your Majesty," he replied. But the Princess had already fallen in love with him so they were married the following week-end and lived happily ever after.



Beautiful Pictures

Summer is coming — and holidays, too. Then the sun will shine and children can play together all day long. Have you ever noticed how swiftly the days slip by during the summer holidays and how slowly your school days creep past?

In our picture, some people hurry through the park, taking a short

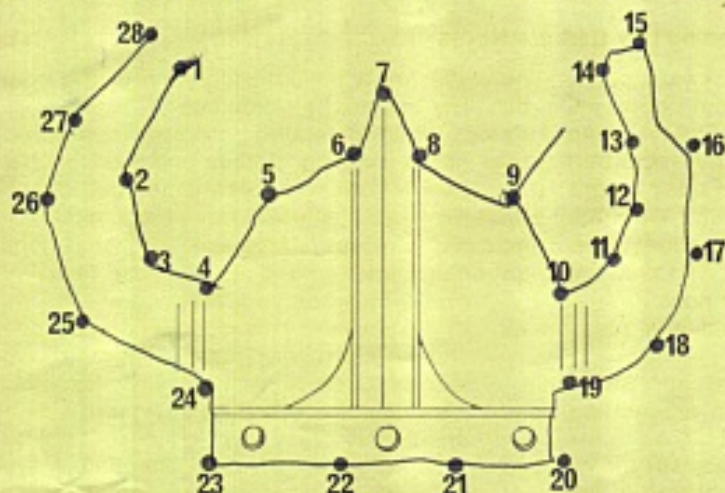
cut perhaps from their homes to the shops. But three happy children have stopped to clamber up a tree and play their merry games of — what? Tarzan? Robin Hood? Who knows? But they make a beautiful picture that would look splendid in your scrapbook, a foretaste of your summer days soon to come.

THE VIKING

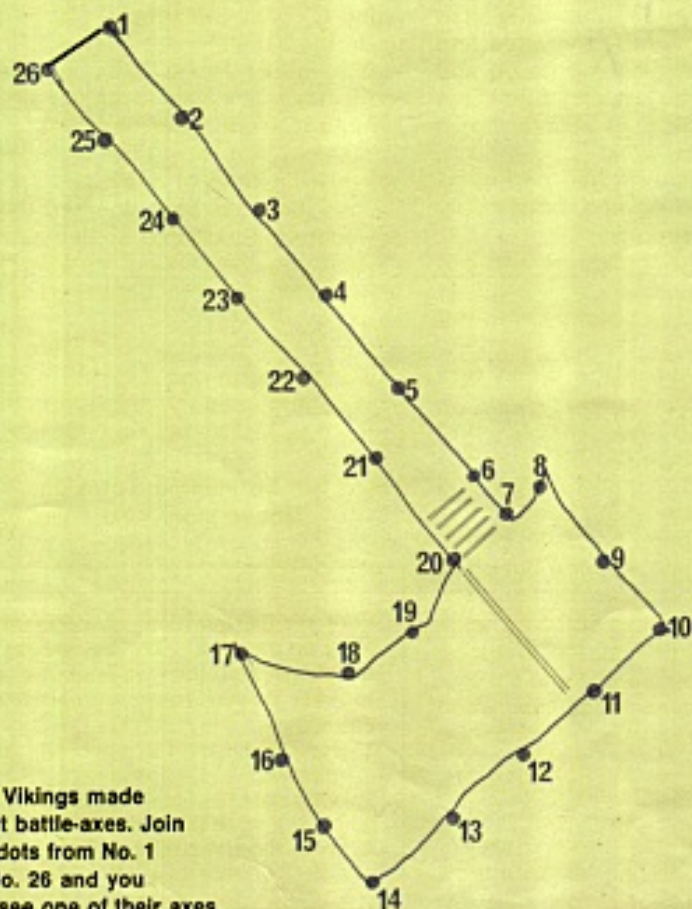
The bold Vikings of Norway and Denmark were a wonderful people. Born in lands where there were few comforts and little wealth, they sailed out into the unknown seas seeking riches and adventure.

They sailed everywhere. To the British Isles, to France, Iceland and Greenland, and across the Atlantic Ocean to North America. They reached America five hundred years before Christopher Columbus.

On the right you can see what one of these brave sea-raiders looked like when armed for war.



The helmets of the Vikings were usually decorated by wings or horns. If you join the dots from No. 1 to No. 28 you will complete a Norseman's helmet.



The Vikings made stout battle-axes. Join the dots from No. 1 to No. 26 and you will see one of their axes.



THE TOWN MOUSE AND THE Country Mouse

What a Way to Spend an Evening! By Barbara Hayes

ONCE upon a time there were two mice. One was called Winifred and lived in the country and the other was called Stephanie and she lived in the town.

Now it happened once that Stephanie, the town mouse, had been ill with a cold and her doctor had told her to go for a holiday in the country, until she was feeling quite well again.

So Stephanie had gone to stay with her country cousin, Winifred, but unfortunately life in the country wasn't really to Stephanie's liking.

"All you country bumpkins are so slow!" grumbled Stephanie. "Why, in the time it takes you to make a cake, Winifred, I could be up and out, I could have dropped in at three or four coffee parties and been home again in time to change my dress and go out with my boyfriend, Nigel, to a smart restaurant for lunch."

Winifred sighed. "Yes, our Stephanie!" she said, "but it would be no use for me to try to live like that. There are no coffee parties for me to go to. I suppose I could drop in on old Mrs. Badger and help her with scrubbing her floors, but really I have enough work of my own. As for changing to go out for lunch with my boyfriend—why, my boyfriend Bertie just has a cheese sandwich as he gets on with hoeing the turnip field."

"Your boyfriend Bertie is a bit of a turnip himself, if you ask me," laughed Stephanie. "Anyway, do stop making excuses, Winifred. The truth is that you country folk just won't try. You're just dull stick-in-the-muds and that's the end of it."

So the time went by, until the first Friday evening of Stephanie's country visit came round.

Now in the town, Friday night was the night when everyone went out to enjoy themselves.

They dressed in their best clothes and if they didn't go to the theatre, at least they went out to a restaurant for dinner and had a gay time chatting to their friends.

It didn't even cross Stephanie's mind that things weren't the same in the country.

"I know they don't go out much during

the week in these backward parts," she thought to herself, "but there must be some fun in the air on Fridays, even if it's only a barn dance in the local barn."

So on the first Friday night that Stephanie stayed with Winifred, she looked at the clock at about seven and she said to Winifred: "I think I will go upstairs and get ready now."

Winifred was amazed and pleased as well.

"What a good idea, our Stephanie," she smiled. "I see you are getting used to country ways at last!"

That was a strange answer for Winifred to give, wasn't it? But the truth was that she had quite misunderstood what Stephanie meant.

You see, Winifred was used to going to bed very early and she thought that Stephanie was saying that she was going upstairs to get ready for bed.

A few minutes after Stephanie had gone up the stairs, Winifred yawned and said to herself: "I think I will go up and get ready for bed too. Having Stephanie to say with me is nice, of course, but it makes a lot of extra work."

And there they were in their bedrooms on either side of the landing, both busily at work doing opposite things.

Winifred took off her clothes and put on her nightdress.

Stephanie took off her clothes and put on an evening gown.

Winifred washed her face clean and put her hair in curlers.

Stephanie put on her make-up and clipped a coronet on to her head.

Stephanie slipped a comb, hanky and some money into an evening bag.

Winifred picked up her hot water bottle. Finally both the mice stepped out on to the landing.

"Well, I'm ready to make some hot milk to take to bed with us," stated Winifred.

"Well, I'm ready for an evening's dancing and I won't even complain when Bertie treads on my toes," stated Stephanie.

Then they stared at each other in amazement.

"What sort of dance dress is that?" gasped Stephanie, staring at Winifred's dressing gown and nightdress. "I know

you are a bit unfashionable in the country, but this is ridiculous!"

Winifred stared at Stephanie's gorgeous evening clothes and said: "I hate to interfere, our Stephanie, but do you think you should buy such expensive nightdresses? And I'm sure that fancy hair curler you have on your head will prick you when you sleep."

"Haircurler! This is a diamond coronet, you silly girl!" shouted Stephanie, who tended to be rude when she was cross. "And this is an evening gown, not a nightdress."

Of course, it was Stephanie who realised first what was happening.

"Does this mean that even Friday night isn't fun-time out in this woebegone wilderness?" she gasped. Then she went on: "Oh don't bother to answer, Winifred. I can guess. On Friday nights, you go to bed early, just the same as on every other night. Oh well, I suppose I shall just have to do the same."

She turned to go back into her bedroom, then she said over her shoulder: "Would it make the excitement too much to bear if I had two lumps of sugar in my hot milk, instead of one?"

Then, because poor Winifred looked so bewildered, Stephanie smiled and said: "Thank you for making me so welcome, Winifred. It's just that I'm not used to your ways."

But she added to herself when Winifred couldn't hear: "And I've no intention of ever getting used to them either. It's back to town as fast as possible for me."

There will be another Town and Country Mouse story next week.

Here are the questions about the lovely story on page 10. Try to answer the questions and then re-read the story to see if you have answered them correctly.

1. How much did Hans receive for his picture?
2. Who sold the clock to Hans?
3. Where were the horses being taken?
4. Who did Hans take to live with him?



Cherry Charmer



1. Major Thunder and Lord Gentle were both in love with Cherry Charmer, the Beauty of Bootle Green. Cherry could not make up her mind who to marry so the Major and the Lord decided to fight a duel. The winner would marry Cherry.



2. And so early one morning the rivals faced each other with drawn swords.



3. But Kitty, Cherry's maid, had learned about the duel and awakened her mistress with the terrible news. "Oh dear," said Cherry. "I must stop them. Perhaps Lord Gentle will hurt Major Thunder and I wouldn't like that because I like the Major."



4. Cherry dressed and arrived just as Major Thunder pricked Lord Gentle in the wrist. Now although Cherry thought she liked Major Thunder better than Lord Gentle, she was very upset when she saw that the Lord's wrist had been scratched.



5. "You poor thing," said Cherry. "Let me kiss it better." When Major Thunder heard Cherry say this, he lost his temper. Charging forward, he banged Lord Gentle on the nose with his fist. "Oh dear," sighed Cherry. "That wasn't at all nice."



6. Poor Lord Gentle sank to the ground, holding his nose. Cherry felt very sorry for him and she spoke angrily to Major Thunder. "Why," said she, "you're nothing but a big bully, Major—and to think I was going to tell you today that I would marry you. Be off with you!"



7. The Major snorted and took himself off in a huff. Then Cherry helped Lord Gentle to his feet. "I think I love you better than Major Thunder," she said softly. "Shall we get married?" Lord Gentle was delighted when Cherry said this and he kissed her.



8. Eight months later Lord Gentle and Cherry Charmer were married. The village beadle led the procession.



9. Cherry's father and mother signed the register while Lord Gentle and his lovely new wife left the church. Major Thunder was hiding behind a tree. "It is said that only the brave deserve the fair," he said, "but nobody could say Lord Gentle is brave. Where did I go wrong?"



10. Of course, the truth was that no maiden loves a bully. Cherry and her Lord lived happily ever after and had

1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10

happy children. Here they are. You can count them.





The **WISE OLD OWL** Knows all the answers

The Wise Old Owl is here to answer many interesting questions for you.



1. What was the "Mayflower" ?

"The 'Mayflower' was the little ship which sailed across the Atlantic Ocean in 1620, carrying a group of people, known as the Pilgrim Fathers, to America. 78 men and 24 women left Plymouth in the 'Mayflower' and two and a half months passed before they landed and settled in New England. This was the start of the great American nation."



3. What is known as the "Bulb Country" ?

"Holland — because thousands and thousands of bulbs for tulips, daffodils and other flowers are grown there. In the Springtime, the countryside of Holland is a blaze of colour, when all the beautiful flowers are in bloom. The bulbs are dug up later and sent all over the world for people to buy and plant in their gardens."



5. Why did armies carry flags ?

"Because in the olden days, troops were not like the armies of today. They were often local farmworkers who followed their lords and masters to war and did not wear uniforms. So their leaders always carried a flag to show the soldiers where they were."



2. How is Honey made ?

"Honey is made by bees from nectar and pollen which they gather from the flowers. They store the honey in honey-combs inside the bee-hives. The honey-combs are then collected from the hive by the bee-keeper. As well as being pleasant to eat, honey has a very high food-value."



4. Do you know what causes a geyser ?

"A geyser is a water-spout. There are some in Iceland, New Zealand and America. Geysers are caused by rain water passing through the ground on to heated rocks below the earth's surface. This causes the water to boil and the steam and the water above is shot high into the air."



6. Where could you find water in a desert ?

"In some deserts, of course, there are water-holes. But if there are no water-holes, water can be found by cutting into the spiny trunks of a giant cactus tree. Cactus trees grow to ten feet in height and they are kept alive by water which is stored in their trunks."